

jams, jellies, pickles etc. mostly for local consumption in the areas around FP&TCs. Two such FP&TCs are already operational in Nasik and Wardha Districts of Maharashtra and one more has been sanctioned in 1993-94 in the District of Wardha.

As for Gujarat, three FP&TCs have been sanctioned— one in 1993-94 at Bordoli and two in 1994-95 in Junagarh and Gandevi.

(d) & (e) Cooperatives are provided grant in aid under various plan schemes of the Ministry for setting up infrastructure facilities as well as processing units. The level of assistance varies according to the scheme, and also the area, in which those are located.

P-5 Meet

3188. SHRI JANG BAHADUR SINGH PATEL :

SHRI MADAVRAO SCINDIA :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether a P-5 meeting was held at Geneva recently to discuss the nuclear tests conducted by India and Pakistan;

(b) if so, the details of matters discussed at the meet;

(c) whether Kashmir issue was considered pivotal in resolving the tension in Southern Asia; and

(d) the measures taken to see Southern Asia remains a Zone of Peace?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE):

(a) to (c) In the Joint Communique, the Foreign Ministers of the Five Permanent Members of the UN Security Council, P-5, in a meeting in Geneva, June 4, 1998, "condemned" the tests carried out by India and Pakistan, expressed their "deep concern about the danger to peace and stability in the region", and "pledged to cooperate closely" in order to prevent an arms race in the sub-continent, "bolster the non-proliferation regime and to encourage reconciliation and peaceful resolution of differences between India and Pakistan". They called upon India and Pakistan to adhere to the CTBT immediately and unconditionally and said that their goal continues to be adherence by all countries to the NPT as it stands, without any modification. They said that they would "actively encourage" India and Pakistan "to find mutually acceptable solutions, through direct dialogue that address the root causes of tension, including Kashmir and to try to build confidence rather than seek confrontation".

(d) India enjoys a consistent record as a responsible member of the international community and a pioneer

and leading participant in the movement towards global nuclear disarmament. India has made consistent efforts aimed towards building confidence and promoting peace and stability in our region. In the wake of the nuclear tests, Government have also taken various initiatives with a view to concerns expressed subsequent to the tests. These are: (i) India will observe a voluntary moratorium and refrain from conducting further tests. India is also willing to explore ways and means, in moving towards a *de jure* formalisation of this declaration, (ii) India is ready to discuss a no-first-use agreement bilaterally with Pakistan, as also with other countries, bilaterally or in a collective forum, and (iii) India has no intention of engaging in a nuclear arms race. India expects a positive response to the various initiatives it has announced so that peace and stability are maintained in the sub-continent.

G-15 Countries

3189. SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR SHINDE :
SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the G-15 developing countries endorsed India's proposal of co-ordinated action to resist unilateral trade actions including the extra territorial applications of national legislation by developing countries;

(b) if so, whether it has also been agreed that trade differences should be settled within the framework of the World Trade Organisation;

(c) if so, the other proposals put forward by India in G-15 nations;

(d) the number of Indian proposals that have been accepted; and

(e) the other decisions taken at the G-15 meeting?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE)

: (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The G-15 leaders at their Eighth Summit in Cairo in May 1998 reiterated their belief that unilateral measures with extraterritorial effects are incompatible with the multilateral trading system. They have urged developed countries to resist calls for protectionism and reiterated their rejection of the use of trade measures or instruments, including anti-dumping and countervailing duty provisions, and standards and regulations for protectionist purposes, or to promote or enforce non-trading objectives, principles or disciplines, including those related to labour standards and the environment. The leaders have reaffirmed the primacy of

a transparent, fair and equitable rule-based multilateral trading system under the World Trade Organisation (WTO).

(c) and (d) India emphasised that the pursuit of liberalisation which has become WTO's reason to exist, was not an end in itself and must meet the core objectives of rapid development, welfare gains and best returns for the extant and potential resources of developing countries. Towards this end, India submitted proposals outlining developing countries' concerns and possible ways of ensuring special and differential treatment to developing countries in all aspects of the WTO agenda and its implementation. India has offered to host a G-15 inter-governmental meeting on this later this year. India also took up the issue of fair reward for the bio-genetic resources of developing countries. India has also called upon G-15 to work together to mobilise international cooperation and practical global action to defeat the designs of international terrorism.

(e) The G-15 Summit focussed on two major themes, viz., financial crisis in East and South East Asia and Multilateral Trading System including the WTO Ministerial Conference at Geneva. The Summit examined the different perspectives and called for comprehensive and urgent action in preventing the spread of the financial turmoil in East and South East Asia. On the issue of multilateral trading system, the Summit focussed on developing country positions on various matters that were likely to be taken up at the Geneva meeting as well as on a positive agenda for developing countries. The Summit called upon developed country partners to take appropriate measures for the fair and equitable sharing of benefits from the use of the bio-genetic resources of developing countries and to develop measures to implement their rights. The Summit strongly condemned all kinds of terrorism, their perpetrators and all those who support them under whatever guise and called for enhanced international cooperation to prevent and combat this menace.

National Land Use and Conservation Boards

3190. SHRI BIKRAM DEO KESHARI : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) details of the activities of the National Land Use and Conservation Boards, State-wise particularly for the State of Orissa;

(b) whether the district of Kalahandi has been included in the activities of National Land Use and Conservation Board; and

(c) if so, the quantum of funds has been allocated for the same during the year 1998-99, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SOMPAL) : (a) The National Land Use and Conservation Board (NLCB) is an apex body for policy planning and scientific management of land resources at the national level and details of its activities are given in the enclosed Statement-I. State-wise activities are not carried out by the NLCB. All the activities are undertaken by the State Land Use Boards of the concerned States/UTs including the State of Orissa.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Quantum of funds allocated Statewise to the State Land Use Boards is shown in the Statement-II.

Statement-I

Activities of National Land Use & Conservation Board

- (i) Formulation of National Policy and Perspective Plan for conservation, management and development of land resources of the country, taking into account appropriate land use, soil capability and other factors;
- (ii) Make an overall review of the progress of implementation of ongoing schemes and programmes connected with conservation and development of land resources, soils and allied matters;
- (iii) Consider the review proposals concerning soil-surveys and general assessment of land resources.
- (iv) Sponsor studies, to organise regional and national deliberations/seminars/workshops through various agencies in collaboration with State Land Use Boards, Universities, Research Institutes, etc.
- (v) Take measures for creating a general awareness about the importance and problems of proper soil management;
- (vi) Consider measures for ensuring that good agricultural land is not indiscriminately diverted to non-agricultural purpose;
- (vii) Coordinate the work of State Land Use Boards.
- (viii) Act in full collaboration with the National Wastelands Development Board in regard to matters of common interest.
- (ix) Consider and undertake all other measures necessary for promoting the scientific management of land Resources and conservation.